

## THE STATE IN BRIEF.

The Pine Bluff stock law has gone into effect.

Rich zinc finds are reported in Baxter county.

Jonesboro's new opera house will soon be opened.

Low water retards navigation on the upper White river.

Independence county is advancing in public school work.

Workmen struck coal while digging a well at Clarksville.

Newport merchants handled 20,000 bales of cotton last year.

Helena is to have a box factory. Capital of the company, \$10,000.

There are several cases of scarlet fever reported at El Dorado.

Quite a number of colored people have died from grip at Brinkley.

The Springdale post office has been made presidential; salary, \$1,000.

Three men have been killed by runaway teams at Springdale recently.

The residence of Mrs. N. H. Moore, of Hot Springs, was destroyed by fire.

A coal-oil war rages in Little Rock. Oil has been selling for 5 cents per gallon.

J. A. Hinkle, a retired merchant, has been appointed postmaster of Batesville.

Judge Brown and family have removed from Fayetteville to Little Rock.

All convicts at the Palarm camp have been returned to the penitentiary.

Hon. E. T. McConnell has assumed the duties of superintendent of the penitentiary.

There was over \$100,000 paid over the counter of the Boone county bank last year for stock.

Capt. Michael Van Buren Shaver died at Newport. He was a Confederate veteran.

Arthur Mullins, proprietor of a Pine Bluff saloon, recently confessed judgment for \$3,000.

Col. R. W. Worthen, late superintendent of the penitentiary, will engage in farming.

The general merchandise stock of Stett & Billingsley, of Okolona, was attached recently.

R. F. & B. C. Johnson, extensive dealers in general merchandise at Newport, have assigned.

The Hot Springs street railway will extend its track down Valley street direct to the race track.

It cost a colored man \$45 to carry a pistol at Pine Bluff and setting up the claim that he was a constable.

Prof. Shinn says the recent state teachers' meeting at Fayetteville was the best ever held in the state.

Articles of incorporation of the Bentonville & Northwestern railway have been filed; capital stock, \$150,000.

W. P. McDill & Co., doing business at Garretson's Landing, 20 miles below Pine Bluff, were recently attached.

Crawford county fruit-growers expect a big crop this year, and are laying in a supply of boxing material.

The Bentonville People's bank has withdrawn the reward offered for the men who robbed the bank last summer.

The Helena Woman's Columbia club has wound up its business and had ninety cents left in the treasury.

Col. E. W. Rector will remove from Hot Springs to Little Rock and form a law partnership with Mr. C. S. Collins.

'Squire Ross, of Poplar Grove, recently had sixteen violators of the law before him for gaming. They got off for costs.

The handsome residence of Maj. W. E. Penn, at Eureka Springs, was by the merest accident saved from fire the other evening.

There is much rejoicing at Hot Springs over the refusal of County Judge Z. W. Lakeman to grant liquor license to the "Dirty Six."

Gen. E. J. Brooks, formerly of Little Rock, but now of Denver, Col., was in Little Rock the other day. He is a son of ex-Gov. Joe Brooks.

E. Zachariason was awarded \$2,000 damages by a jury at Little Rock in his suit for \$20,000 against the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Railroad Co.

R. R. Carlisle has secured judgment for \$535.70 in Little Rock against Col. Zeb Ward for wages due him as foreman on Col. Ward's Conway county plantation.

An effort will be made to raise the steamer John Graves, recently sunk in the Ouachita near El Dorado. Most of the cargo can be saved with smaller damages than expected.

The Ewing seminary, one of the oldest educational landmarks of north-west Arkansas, was destroyed by fire the other day. The school was located at Lamar. The loss is said to be \$5,000; fully insured.

Judge John E. Bennett, of the South Dakota supreme bench, died in Clark, S. D., the other day of la grippe. Judge Bennett was on the Arkansas supreme bench during the reconstruction period, and was the first man in Arkansas to engage in the cotton-seed oil business.

A contract has been closed between the state penitentiary board and Young & Shafer, for forty-five men for work on a farm near Galloway. The state pays expenses and receives \$15 a month. Also a contract with Mrs. J. R. Miller, at Palarm, for thirty men at \$6 per month. The lessees are to pay all expenses in the last named contract.

## SOUTHERN GLEANINGS.

### Betrayed By a Woman.

Claiborne county, Tenn., has a new sensation in connection with the murder of Bachelor John Cunningham, December 1.

Soon after the murder of Cunningham suspicion pointed to Phil Edington. He was arrested, but proved himself innocent. The other day Salie Margraves confessed that she went to the house of Cunningham, on the night of the murder with Paris Clapp, and that he committed the murder. Clapp was arrested and put in jail at Tazewell. The woman is also being held. She took the officers to a secluded spot near the scene of the murder and there found \$40 of the money which had been taken from Cunningham. About seven dollars of the money thought to have been taken at the time of the killing was recently found in a pile of onions in Cunningham's house. Cunningham was shot while in bed and not given a chance for his life.

### A Brilliant Wedding.

Senator Faulkner and Miss Whiting were married at Fort Monroe, Va.

The affair was a very brilliant one. The day was perfect and the entire lower peninsula turned out to witness the event. At 5 o'clock the party, comprising the eight groomsman and bridesmaids, advanced from the wings and formed in the main aisle to receive the bride. The organ and orchestra commenced playing the wedding march from Lohengrin, when a chorus of eight young lady friends of the bride all dressed in pink chiffon over satin, sang the march as they advanced to meet the bride, who entered at this moment on the arm of her father, and passed through the lines thus formed to the chancel, where the groom and his best man were smilingly awaiting her arrival. They were followed by the bridal party and ushers who took positions on either side of the altar. The pastor, Rev. Dr. John Bryant, proceeded with the Episcopal marriage service. The senator and his bride left for the south.

### An Important Measure.

An important bill was introduced in the lower house of the Mississippi legislature the other day.

It appropriates \$150,000 for establishing a prison farm for state convicts. It provides for the purchase of 10,000 acres of land for the purpose. The penitentiary question is the biggest one before the legislature. The constitution plainly foreshadows the establishment of the farm, but owing to the expenditure involved the plan meets with strong opposition.

### THE PENSION QUESTION.

The resolution looking to the purging of the pension rolls of unworthy pensioners, and of keeping them off in future, was unanimously adopted. In three years the number has increased from 800 to over 3,000.

### Louisiana's Biggest Sugar Crop.

The New Orleans Picayune, in summing up the year's sugar record of Louisiana, says:

For the first time on record, the receipts of sugar at New Orleans reached and passed the million-barrel mark. The movement of the crop has been heavy ever since the commencement of the present season, and the arrivals since September 1 reach the immense figure of 1,004,856 barrels. The movement last season up to this date amounted to 919,758 barrels, so that there has already been received this season 55,000 barrels more than during the whole of last year. Judging from the movement to date, the total receipts at New Orleans this year will reach 1,300,000 barrels, and, possibly, more, and the crop itself will scarcely prove a pound less than 800,000,000 pounds, or 300,000 short tons.

### Unique Mexican Performance.

A unique Mexican performance was given at San Antonio, Tex., the other night.

It was under the auspices of the American Folk Lore society, of Cambridge, Mass. The Mexicans gave a rendition of "The Pastores," or Shepherds. It is the old story of the wise men and the Star of Bethlehem, with variations. The costumes are remarkable and almost indescribable. The music is a sort of weird, monotonous chanting, and altogether "The Pastores" is something seldom seen. The performance lasted three hours.

### Killed His Brother.

A story comes from Fresco, Coffee county, Ala., of the murder of William Clowers by his brother John.

It seems William owed his brother eighty cents, which he was trying to avoid paying. Hard words ensued, and John, who is very high-tempered, struck his brother a severe blow with a club. The blow was enough to kill the man, but the enraged brother was not satisfied, and pulled out a revolver and fired on his prostrate brother. The ball entered his heart. John was arrested.

### Cotton Mills Consumed.

The cotton mills of Embrey, Son & Young, north of Florence, Ala., burned the other night. The loss is estimated at \$20,000; insured for \$10,000. The factory was a 2,500-spindle yarn mill. The machinery was modern and the plant well equipped.

### A Wild Bull.

A wild bull broke loose from the man who was leading it on the street in Louisville, Ky., and created a panic. One woman was struck by the animal's horns and thrown into the air. She will die of her injuries. Three men were badly hurt.

### Found Guilty.

Thomas Rodgers, a well-to-do citizen of Hamblen county, Tenn., who shot and killed Walter Scott in a difficulty over a cow last spring, was found guilty of murder in the second degree and sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary.

### Frozen to Death.

Rafe Savage, a resident of the Eulaton community, 6 miles west of Anniston, Ala., was found dead in a small creek near that place. When last seen he was drunk. He fell in the water and froze to death.

### Dr. Dabney in Office.

Dr. Charles W. Dabney, of Tennessee, has taken the oath of office and entered on his duties as assistant secretary of agriculture to succeed Mr. Willets.

### Battle with Moonshiners.

Revenue officers had a battle with moonshiners in the mountains of Monroe county, Tenn. James Dobson was captured and his illicit still destroyed.

### Shot Down in Presence of His Family.

Andrew Martin, a prominent farmer of Middletown, Ala., was shot and instantly killed the other night by an assassin, while talking with his family.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

### After the Holiday Recess—Tariff Fight in the House.

The senate met at noon on January 3 with a small attendance. Mr. Frye (Me.) offered a resolution that pending investigation there should be no reference in Hawaiian affairs by the United States government. A bill passed permitting certain aliens to own real estate in the District of Columbia. After a brief executive session the senate adjourned. When the house met debate on the tariff bill, which was the regular order, was antagonized by Mr. Boutelle (Me.) and other republicans and the failure of the democrats to secure a quorum blocked the proceedings. Mr. Adams, successor to Mr. O'Neill (Pa.), was sworn in and at 2 o'clock the house adjourned.

In the senate on the 4th Mr. Hoar introduced a resolution calling on the secretary of the treasury for his authority for the payment of Special Commissioner Blount for his Hawaiian services, and Senator Gray gave notice that on Tuesday he would insist on taking up the federal elections repeal bill. The bill relating to the disqualification of registers and receivers of land offices was amended and passed. Senator Dolph's bill to extend the time of the Umatilla Irrigation Co. three years passed and the senate adjourned until Monday. When the house met the tariff bill was again antagonized by the Hawaiian matter and pending an effort of the democrats to secure a quorum proceedings were blocked and the house adjourned.

The senate was not in session on the 5th. The house got into another tangle on the attempt to take up the tariff bill. Mr. Boutelle demanding the consideration of his Hawaiian resolution as taking precedence of the tariff bill. The speaker ruled him out of order and further refused to entertain his appeal upon the question of giving precedence to the report of the committee on rules, which Mr. Catchings offered and demanded the previous question. After several calls of the house the friends of the tariff bill failed to secure a quorum owing to the refusal of several New York democrats to respond to the call of the roll. Pending the effort to secure a quorum the house adjourned.

The deadlock continued in the house on the 6th. Mr. Boutelle renewed his filibustering tactics against the report of the committee on rules, having in view the immediate consideration of the tariff bill. The refusal of the republicans, populists and fifteen anti-tariff reform democrats to answer to roll call prevented the friends of the Wilson bill from securing a quorum, and finally after the adoption of a resolution ordering the arrest of members absent without leave the house adjourned.

### The Most Useful of Minerals.

Palladium is one of the least known but most useful of minerals, and the uses to which it is put would make an interesting story. It belongs to the platinum group, and is found with that mineral in the Ural mountains, Brazil, Peru and in the Hartz mountains. It was first introduced by a chemist named Cox. It is similar in color to platinum and is very malleable because of its flexibility. It is a great absorber of hydrogen gas, but is principally used in the production of alloys. It is used in a thin film to protect silver surfaces. A very close inspection of most silver will reveal a thin coating of it on the articles, which protects them to a large extent from tarnishing. Mirrors have been backed with it. It gives an alloy with zinc, nickel and tin. Palladium and silver form an alloy which is used by dentists in filling teeth. An alloy of palladium, gold, silver and copper is used to make bearings for the works of watches. In that use, one part palladium, three parts gold, two parts silver and four parts copper form a body which produces less friction for the working parts of a watch than the gems which are most commonly used. Palladium and steel are combined to make the most delicate of surgical instruments. It can be utilized more comprehensively with good results than any other mineral known.—Brooklyn Eagle.

### Marriage in Siam.

A declaration of marriage in Siam is simpler even than it used to be in Scotland. You ask a lady to marry you by merely offering her a flower or taking a light from a cigarette, if it happens to be in her mouth; and your family and the bride's family have to put up at least one thousand dollars apiece for a dowry. Unlike Japan, the Siamese women are treated as equals, but they can seldom read or write. The principal impediment in the way of marriage is that each year is named after an animal, and only certain animals are allowed to intermarry. For instance, a person born in the year of the rat cannot marry with a person born in the year of the dog, or a person born in the year of the cow with a person born in the year of the tiger, and there are similar embargoes about months and days.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### Firmness the Thing.

"My dear," said Mr. McInt to his wife, "you are not half severe enough with Bobbie! You must be firm. Now, watch me! Bobbie! you must not play ball in the parlor!" "Why mustn't I?" "Because I say so!" "Freddie Gibbs plays ball in his parlor!" "That doesn't—" "And his folks don't lick him, an'—he's got a good home—boo-ho—an' his parents is kind—boo-hoo—wow!" "Bobbie!" "Boo-hoo—wow—ee—wow!" "Bobbie! Come here, Bobbie. Never mind, there's a good boy. You can play, Bobbie." "Boo-hoo! Will you gimme a quarter, too?"

It was here that Mr. McInt gave Bobbie a twenty-five cent piece and changed the subject, ignoring a happy smile which played over Mrs. McInt's features.—Chicago Record.

### Could Afford Servants.

First Boy—Your mother isn't half so strict with you as she used to be, is she?

Second Boy—Oh, she doesn't have time to bother about me any more. Pop's had a raise of salary, and now mother's got a steady job hunting around intelligence offices.—Good News.

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